

Intha-Danu language

Intha and **Danu** constitute southern Burmish languages of Shan State, Burma, spoken by the Danu and Intha people. They are considered dialects of Burmese by the Government of Myanmar.

Danu is spoken by the Danu people, Intha by the Intha, a group of Bamar descendants who migrated to Inle Lake in Shan State. Both are spoken by about 100,000.^[1] Both are characterized by a retention of the /-l-/ medial (for the following consonant clusters in Intha: /kl- k^hl- pl- p^hl- ml- hml-/). Examples include:

- "full": Standard Burmese ပြည့် ([pjɛ̃]) → လှည့် ([plɛ̃]), from old Burmese လှည့်
- "ground": Standard Burmese မြေ ([mjè̃]) → မွေ ([mlè̃]), from old Burmese မွယ်

There is no voicing with the presence of either aspirated or unaspirated consonants. For instance, ဗုဒ္ဓ (Buddha) is pronounced [boʊʔd̪ə] in standard Burmese, but [pʰoʊʔt̪ḁ] in Intha. This is probably due to influence from the Shan language.

Furthermore, ထ (/θ/ in standard Burmese) has merged to /s^h/ (ဆ) in Intha.

Rhymes

Rhyme correspondences to standard Burmese follow these patterns:^[3]

| Intha-Danu | |
|-----------------|---|
| Pronunciation | dənuʔ |
| Native to | Burma |
| Region | Inle Lake, Shan State |
| Ethnicity | Intha, Danu |
| Native speakers | ca. 200,000 (2000–2007) ^[1] |
| Language family | <div>Sino-Tibetan<ul style="list-style-type: none">(Tibeto-Burman)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lolo–Burmese<ul style="list-style-type: none">Burmish<ul style="list-style-type: none">Southern (see Burmese dialects)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Intha-Danu</div> |
| Dialects | Danu <div></div> Intha |
| Language codes | |
| ISO 639-3 | Either: <div>dnu – Danu</div> <div>int – Intha</div> |
| Glottolog | inth1238 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/inth1238) ^[2] |

| Written Burmese | Standard Burmese | Intha | Notes |
|-----------------|------------------|--------|--|
| -ဉ် -ဉ် | /-IN/ | /-EN/ | |
| -ဉ် | /-IN/ | /-IN/ | |
| ိမ် -နိ ဝိဉ် | /-eIN -eIN -aIN/ | /-eIN/ | |
| -ဉ် -ဉ် | /-jɛ? -ɛ?/ | /-a?/ | |
| -ဉ် -ဉ် | /-a?/ | /-ɛ?/ | |
| -ဉ် | /--ɛ, -e, -i/ | /-e/ | /-i/ if initial is a palatal consonant |
| ိတ် ဝိတ် ဝိတ် | /-eɪ? -eɪ? -aɪ?/ | /-aɪ?/ | |

Rhymes

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Open syllables | weak = ə full = i, e, ɛ, a, ɔ, o, u |
| Closed | nasal = IN, eIN, ɛN, aN, ɔN, ʊN, ʊN stop = ɪ?, aɪ?, ɛ?, a?, ɔ?, ʊ?, ʊ? |

References

1. Danu (<https://www.ethnologue.com/21/language/dnv>) at *Ethnologue* (21st ed., 2018)
Intha (<https://www.ethnologue.com/21/language/int>) at *Ethnologue* (21st ed., 2018)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Intha-Danu" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/inth1238>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Barron, Sandy; John Okell; Saw Myat Yin; Kenneth VanBik; Arthur Swain; Emma Larkin; Anna J. Allott; Kirsten Ewers (2007). *Refugees From Burma: Their Backgrounds and Refugee Experiences* (<https://web.archive.org/web/20110427203847/http://www.cal.org/co/pdffiles/refugeesfromburma.pdf>) (PDF) (Report). Center for Applied Linguistics. pp. 16–17. Archived from the original (<http://www.cal.org/co/pdffiles/refugeesfromburma.pdf>) (PDF) on 2011-04-27. Retrieved 2010-08-20.

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This page was last edited on 31 May 2020, at 21:51 (UTC).

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